GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4137
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2017
COTPA
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any initiatives are being taken by his Ministry to support enforcement of COTPA (Cigarette and Other Tabacco Products Act) through the 3-tier elected Panchayati Raj System in rural areas of the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State/UT-wise;
(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
(d) the monitoring mechanism in place for the enforcement of COTPA?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c) Ministry of Panchayati Raj is not taking any initiative to support enforcement of Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA). The Constitution recognizes Panchayats as institutions of self government. Panchayats being Local Bodies is a State subject mandated under Part IX and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution. Article 243G allows discretion to State Legislatures to endow the Panchayats with powers and authority to enable them to function as institutions of local self-governance. However, a National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2007-08 to ensure effective implementation of the provisions under the COTPA. Operational guidelines on NTCP lay down the provision of Block and Village level interventions under the programme.

(d) Quarterly Reports submitted by the States/Union Territories (UTs) during each Financial Year to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and review meetings with States/UTs constitute the monitoring mechanism for implementation of the Programme. In addition, the States submit the annual activities conducted in their States through Programme Implementation Plan.

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